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Excerpt from the TOKYO ASAHI

dated March 8, 1932.

Japanese People Wish Peace in Manchuria.

ARAKI, Minister of War's Speech at the Reception Party given in honor of the Investigation Committee of the League of Nations.

What I ask you to remember above all is the fact that the Japanese Army does not exist for the sake of fighting. I declare that our Army exists for the mission of faithfully realizing the Moral Way of His Majesty the Emperor, that is, the national virtues. The long-drawn political confusions in China have most unfortunately deformed her development as a state, and her army are none other than armed bandits. It is a thousand pities to see China as she is with so much difficulty to face, despite the sincere desire of Japan, her friendly neighbor of a close racial and cultural affinity, for China's healthy development. Her unbearable arrogance toward Japan and her violation of treaties have at last reached the limit where Japan's hard and painful endurance of the past twenty years can no longer be maintained.

Now it is a matter for mutual congratulation that peace has come back to Manchuria and the unfortunate affair at Shanghai has been pacified. I further hope that the dispute will be settled as soon as possible by China's showing sincerity of intention.

Japan who regards the establishment of peace in the Orient as her mission and responsibility is firmly determined to reinstate peace while the entire Japanese nation and state unite in prayer for the gods' help thereon.

The Japanese nation can never suffer Manchuria, that holds the most intimate relations with Japan, to be disturbed again, consequently the nation has a resolute will to maintain peace there. I hope you will understand these circumstances. In conclusion, I hope, you visitors to Japan on a peaceful mission will thoroughly inspect and investigate into the circumstances prevailing in the Far East, Japan's position therein and especially the actual conditions at work in China, and will contribute not only to the peace of the Orient in future but also to the peace of the world.

東京朝日抜萃

昭和七年三月八日

滿洲の平和は我國民の願望
聯盟調査員一行を招いて荒木座相がめいざつ

特に御記憶を願ひたい 戰はんが爲の軍に非ずして 實に陛下即ち國の
道徳を實施するに思質なる軍隊なることをこゝに言明するものであります。
不幸隣邦多年の紛亂は國家としての機構をなさずその軍隊は
武装せる賊に外ならずために多平の友邦として又同種文の民族として
その健全なる發達を願つてゐるのでめりますが事實は：常に悲しむべ
と又苦き忍耐に堪えねばならぬ事は誠に遺憾至極でめりますしかして
最早二十年の苦痛と忍苦は極度に達したる支那の暴戾なる毎日と條約
疎構によりてこゝに暴發するに至つたのであります。今や滿洲も平安
上は支那の誠意の與親によりて一日も早く紛争の解決せん事を祈つて
やまぬものであります。

東洋の平和を使命とし責任とする日本は國民の總意を以て國家の總意力を擧げて神に祈つて固くその平和の實現を覺悟してゐる次第でありますもしそれもつとも日本に近き關係を有する滿洲にして再び平和撫亂せられんか到底國民の堪え得さる所でありましてその平和存續のためには國民の決意極めて強さものめります。今回平和の使者として御來朝になりますのでこの邊又十分に御諒承あらん事を祈ふのであります。各各位においては何卒これ等の極東の情勢、日本の立場に對し、^{特に}支那の實情を十分に御観察調査めつて東洋將來の平和は固より以て世界平和の爲に御貢獻あらん事を祈る次第であります。